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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

PRESIDING OFFICER'S  
RULING NO. R2001-1/23

Postal Rate and Fee Changes

Docket No. R2001-1

PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING  
ESTABLISHING A PROCEDURE FOR  
DESIGNATING DISCOVERY RESPONSES PROVIDED  
BY THE POSTAL SERVICE AS AN INSTITUTION

(Issued December 19, 2001)

In this case the Postal Service has continued the practice of providing responses to certain discovery requests as an institution. This practice allows the Postal Service to provide responses to discovery requests that are not within the scope of the testimony of witnesses presenting evidence supporting the Postal Service Request. Because these responses are not identified with a specific witness, it is necessary to establish a procedure for incorporating these responses into the evidentiary record.

Participants wishing to designate for admission into the evidentiary record discovery responses provided by the Postal Service as an institution should file written designations, accompanied by two copies of the designated questions and answers, on or before January 7, 2002. These designations, but not the questions and answers, are to be served on all participants. Participants wishing to object, counter-designate, seek clarification, or request other procedural relief are to file pleadings to that effect on or before January 11, 2002.

A volume of transcript containing designated Postal Service institutional responses shall be prepared following the appearance of witnesses presenting the direct case of the Postal Service. The responses to Presiding Officer Information Requests also will be added to the record at this time.

RULING

Postal Service institutional responses to discovery are to be designated January 7, 2002, as described in the body of this ruling.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Omas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "George" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Omas".

George Omas  
Presiding Officer